

AC 4411(3) THURROCK

THE
Thurrock Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1936

GRAYS.
John Higgins, Printing Contractor.

1936.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF THURROCK.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

K. N. MAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health:

A. R. PARK, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer in charge of Isolation Hospital (part time):

J. R. A. TALLACK, M.B., Ch.B.

Orthopædic Surgeon (part-time):

B. WHITCHURCH HOWELL, F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

Obstetric Specialist (part-time):

ANDREW McALLISTER, F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

Dental Surgeon (part-time):

W. S. ROSE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

Health Visitors:

Miss R. C. ALLCORN

„ E. M. BAKER (1, 2, 3, 4)

„ E. M. CANDLER, (1, 2, 3, 4)

„ E. DARRALL (1, 2, 3, 4)

Miss I. GIBSON

„ E. M. MARSHALL (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

„ E. C. P. MILLER (1, 2, 3, 4)

„ A. POLLEY (1, 2, 3)

1. State Registered Nurse.

2. General Training.

3. Certified Midwife.

4. New Health Visitors' Certificate.

5. Tuberculosis Certificate.

Matron, Isolation Hospital:

Miss M. E. FAITH, S.R.N.

Orthopædic Masseuse (part-time):

Miss M. E. WELLS, C.S.M.M.G. & M.E.

Clerk, Isolation Hospital: C. M. ANSELL.

Chief Sanitary Inspector: L. C. CULLISS

Certificates: Royal Sanitary Institute, Inspector of Meat and other Foods, Officer under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

Inspector under Shops Acts.

Sanitary Inspectors:

R. BULL (1, 2, 5)

R. K. DUNNING, (1)

A. H. GOSLING (1, 2, 3)

A. H. PLUMB (1, 2)

J. YATES (1, 2, 4)

1. Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute. 2. Certificate, Meat and other Foods.

3. Smoke Inspector.

4. Member Institute of Public Cleansing.

5. Certificate, Sanitary Science & Building Construction, Battersea Polytechnic.

Chief Clerk: R. C. GILBERT.

Deputy Chief Clerk: R. L. BROWN.

Clerical Assistants:

D. LAYZELL, P. SMITHSON, R. THOMPSON, L. DANSIE.

Mortuary Attendant: J. COSBY.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy and Assistant Medical Officers are also Assistant County Medical Officers to Essex County Council. The services of the Health Visitors are shared by the Essex County Council as School Nurses.

THURROCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
43 PALMER'S AVENUE,
GRAYS, ESSEX.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Thurrock Urban
District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1936.

This Report is the first Report for the Urban District as now constituted, but my twelfth Report for the area as a whole. The district was constituted on the 1st of April, 1936, and it was formed by the amalgamation of the Urban Districts of Grays, Tilbury and Purfleet and the Rural District of Orsett with the exception of certain small portions of rural parishes, which were transferred to adjoining local authorities. The statistics included in this Report are those for the period from the 1st April to the 31st December for the Thurrock Urban District, and for the period from the 1st January to the 31st March for the former Districts.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.



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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|
| Land area of the District in acres | - | - | 38,324 |
| Population (Registrar-General's estimate mid-year, 1936) | | | 66,217 |
| No. of Inhabited Houses (at 31/12/36) according to Rate Books | - | - | 17,583 |
| Rateable Value, 31/12/36 | - | - | £411,281 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 31/12/36 | - | - | £1,605 |

The Thurrock Urban District stretches along the northern bank of the river Thames, having approximately 18 miles of river frontage. The area adjoining the river is industrialised and contains the two major centres of population, the wards of Grays and Tilbury. The inhabitants of this portion of the district are engaged in factories for the manufacture of margarine, cardboard, cement, footwear and building materials, in shipbreaking yards, in Tilbury Docks, or the various oil works at Thames Haven and Purfleet. The inhabitants of the inland area are employed mostly in agriculture, the district containing many market-gardening and dairy farms.

An increasing number of the inhabitants of the district travel daily to the Metropolis.

The amount of unemployment varies throughout the area and is mostly concentrated in the wards of Tilbury and Grays. Much of the employment among Dock Workers is casual.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following figures have been very kindly supplied by the Managers of the Unemployment Exchange and the Juvenile Employment Bureau.

| | Males 14-18 | Females 14-18 | Males 18-21 | Females 18-21 | Males Over 21 | Females Over 21 | Total |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------|
| No. of Unemployed 31/3/36 | 86 | 59 | 50 | 21 | 898 | 86 | 1200 |
| No. of Unemployed 31/12/36 | 75 | 81 | 32 | 15 | 640 | 146 | 989 |

| EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1936 | | | | |
|--|------|--------|---|----------|
| LIVE BIRTHS. | | M. | F. | Total |
| Legitimate | .... | 578 | 546 | 1124 |
| Illegitimate | .... | 18 | 21 | 39 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 16·8 | | | | |
| | | M. | F. | Total |
| STILLBIRTHS .... | .... | 13 | 15 | 28 |
| Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births | | | | 23·5 |
| | | M. | F. | Total |
| DEATHS .... | .... | 375 | 293 | 668 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident | | | | |
| population | .... | .... | .... | 11·2 |
| Death Rate corrected by Areal Comparability Factor 12·4 | | | | |
| DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES : | | | | |
| | | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births | |
| Puerperal sepsis | .... | 2 | .... | 1·7 |
| Other Puerperal causes | | 5 | .... | 4·3 |
| | | | M. | F. |
| DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR - | | | | |
| | | | 41 | 32 |
| | | | | Total |
| All Infants per 1,000 live births | .... | .... | .... | 62·7 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births | | | | 62·3 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births | | | | 77 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | .... | .... | .... | 96 |
| „ „ Measles „ „ | .... | .... | .... | 9 |
| „ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) |  |  | .... | 2 |
| „ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) |  |  | .... | 10 |
| Birth Rate, England & Wales (provisional figures) 14·8 | | | | |
| Death Rate „ „ „ „ 12·1 | | | | |
| Infantile Mortality Rate „ „ „ „ 59 | | | | |
| Chief causes of Death— | | | | |
| Heart disease | .... | .... | 121 | or 18·1% |
| Cancer | .... | .... | 96 | „ 14·3% |
| Pneumonia | .... | .... | 45 | „ 6·7% |
| Senility | .... | .... | 40 | „ 6·0% |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) | .... | .... | 38 | „ 5·6% |
| Congenital debility, &c. | .... | .... | 36 | „ 5·4% |
| Cerebral hæmorrhage | .... | .... | 34 | „ 5·2% |
| Violence, suicide, &c. | .... | .... | 27 | „ 4·0% |

The following table has been supplied by the Registrar-General.

NOTE.—The figures given are the totals for the combined area under the old boundaries from 1st January—31st March, 1936, and the Thurrock Urban District from 1st April to 31st December, 1936.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | | | | Male. | Female |
|---------------------|---|-----|-----|--------|--------|
| ALL CAUSES | | | | 375 | 293 |
| 1 | Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers | ... | ... | 1 | — |
| 2 | Measles | ... | ... | 1 | 8 |
| 3 | Scarlet fever | ... | ... | 2 | — |
| 4 | Whooping cough | ... | ... | 2 | — |
| 5 | Diphtheria | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| 6 | Influenza | ... | ... | 5 | 4 |
| 7 | Encephalitis lethargica | ... | ... | — | — |
| 8 | Cerebro-spinal fever | ... | ... | — | — |
| 9 | Tuberculosis of respiratory system | ... | ... | 18 | 15 |
| 10 | Other tuberculous diseases... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 |
| 11 | Syphilis | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 12 | General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis | ... | ... | 3 | 1 |
| 13 | Cancer, malignant disease | ... | ... | 55 | 41 |
| 14 | Diabetes | ... | ... | 3 | 7 |
| 15 | Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c. | ... | ... | 17 | 17 |
| 16 | Heart disease | ... | ... | 66 | 55 |
| 17 | Aneurysm | ... | ... | 3 | 1 |
| 18 | Other circulatory diseases | ... | ... | 11 | 11 |
| 19 | Bronchitis | ... | ... | 19 | 6 |
| 20 | Pneumonia (all forms) | ... | ... | 22 | 23 |
| 21 | Other respiratory diseases | ... | ... | 3 | 1 |
| 22 | Peptic Ulcer | ... | ... | 11 | 1 |
| 23 | Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) | ... | ... | 7 | 3 |
| 24 | Appendicitis | ... | ... | 1 | 5 |
| 25 | Cirrhosis of liver | ... | ... | — | — |
| 26 | Other diseases of liver, &c.... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 27 | Other digestive diseases | ... | ... | 7 | 7 |
| 28 | Acute and chronic nephritis | ... | ... | 13 | 6 |
| 29 | Puerperal sepsis | ... | ... | — | 2 |
| 30 | Other puerperal causes | ... | ... | — | 5 |
| 31 | Congenital debility, &c. | ... | ... | 20 | 16 |
| 32 | Senility | ... | ... | 25 | 15 |
| 33 | Suicide | ... | ... | 2 | — |
| 34 | Other violence | ... | ... | 21 | 6 |
| 35 | Other defined diseases | ... | ... | 31 | 31 |
| 36 | Causes ill-defined or unknown | ... | ... | — | — |
| LIVE BIRTHS ... | | | | 578 | 546 |
| { Legitimate | | | | 18 | 21 |
| { Illegitimate | | | | 596 | 567 |
| { Total ... | | | | 13 | 14 |
| STILLBIRTHS ... | | | | — | 1 |
| { Legitimate | | | | 13 | 15 |
| { Illegitimate | | | | 40 | 30 |
| Deaths of Infants | | | | 1 | 2 |
| under 1 year | | | | 41 | 32 |
| POPULATION - 66,217 | | | | A.C.F. | 1.11 |

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING 1936.

| | BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION. | | ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION. | | | | | | | | RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS. | | |
|---|--|--------------|---|---------------|-----------|---------|---------------|----------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| | Live Births. | Still-births | All Causes | Typhoid Fever | Small-pox | Measles | Scarlet Fever | Whooping Cough | Diphtheria | Influenza | Violence | Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two Years) | Total Deaths under One year |
| England and Wales ... | 14·8 | 0·61 | 12·1 | 0·01 | — | 0·07 | 0·01 | 0·05 | 0·07 | 0·14 | 0·52 | 5·9 | 59 |
| 122 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ... | 14·9 | 0·67 | 12·3 | 0·01 | — | 0·09 | 0·01 | 0·06 | 0·08 | 0·14 | 0·45 | 8·2 | 63 |
| 143 Smaller Towns ... | 15·0 | 0·64 | 11·5 | 0·00 | — | 0·04 | 0·01 | 0·04 | 0·05 | 0·15 | 0·39 | 3·4 | 55 |
| London ... | 13·6 | 0·53 | 12·5 | 0·01 | — | 0·14 | 0·01 | 0·06 | 0·05 | 0·14 | 0·52 | 14·4 | 66 |
| Thurrock Urban District ... | 16·8 | 0·42 | 11·2 | 0·00 | — | 0·13 | 0·03 | 0·03 | 0·04 | 0·14 | 0·45 | 8·6 | 62·7 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Section B.

1. (i.) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The medical, nursing and sanitary staff have been enumerated at the commencement of this Report.

(ii.) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Essex County Council's Laboratories continue to serve the area as in former years. At the commencement of the year an extended laboratory service came into operation. The list of examinations which now can be carried out is very comprehensive and of widely varying scope, and for the first time facilities are provided for local authorities by which samples of water, sewage effluents, &c., will be examined, and more complete examination of milk samples will be undertaken. The list of examinations includes the following :

- Blood
- Cerebral-Spinal Fluid
- Faeces
- Food, including ice-cream
- Milk
- Sputum
- Throat Swabs
- Urine
- Sewage Effluents
- Drinking Water
- Swimming-bath Water
- Swabs of Streptococci (Haemolytic)
- Sputa for Tuberculosis
- Miscellaneous

No. of Specimens examined by the Bacteriologist from the District during the year ending 31st December, 1936.

| Specimens | | | No. Examined |
|------------|------|------|-----------------|
| Diphtheria | .... |  | 475 |
| Sputa | ... | .... | 200 |
| Typhoid | ... | .... | 11 |
| Ringworm | ... | | 34 |
| General | .... | .... | 29 |
| Milk | .... | .... | 22 |
| Water | .... | .... | 2 |
| Sewage | ... | .... | — |
| Total | | | 773 |

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

During the year arrangements were completed whereby authorities in the County of Essex agreed as to the reciprocal use of ambulances. Under this agreement no ambulances in the district were used by other Authorities but on two occasions another Authority's ambulance was used for residents in the district.

The ambulance facilities in the district are adequate. The Council maintains two ambulances at the Isolation Hospital for the removal of infectious cases and ambulances for accidents and non-infectious cases are provided by the local Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, by arrangement with the local Authority. Two ambulances are available and I am indebted to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. T. Kelley, for the following statistics :—

| | | Cases. | Total Mileage. |
|----------------|------|--------|----------------|
| Road accidents | .... | 21 | 280 |
| Cases removed | .... | 1,045 | 26,384 |

(ii) (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

There are within the district eight Nursing Associations carrying out nursing duties in South Ockendon, Aveley, Purfleet, West Thurrock, Grays, Little Thurrock, Chadwell-St.-Mary, Tilbury and Bulphan, and in addition the Medical Comforts Committee has continued its useful work during the year. I am indebted to the Honorary Secretary of the latter Committee for the following figures concerning equipment hired out during 1936. The Medical Officer of Health continues as Chairman of the Committee.

Articles Loaned Out during 1936.

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-----|-----|
| Aveley | .... | ... | 28 |
| Chadwell | .... | ... | 17 |
| Purfleet | .... | ... | 37 |
| Stanford-le-Hope | | ... | 65 |
| Tilbury (Vicarage) | | ... | 43 |
| Tilbury (St. Chad's) | | ... | 14 |
| Ockendon | } | | |
| Orsett | | | |
| West Thurrock | | | 45 |
| Grays | .... | ... | 321 |
| Total | | | 570 |

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

| CLINIC. | ADDRESS. | SESSIONS. | REMARKS. |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Maternity and Child Welfare | <p>Aveley—National School ...</p> <p>Bulphan—Parish Hall ...</p> <p>Chadwell-St.-Mary— Welfare Centre, River View ...</p> <p>Corringham—The Reading Room ...</p> <p>Coryton—The Institute ...</p> <p>Grays—Welfare Centre, The Park</p> <p>Horndon—Methodist Church Hall</p> <p>Little Thurrock—Baptist Church Hall, Socketts Heath</p> <p>Orsett—The Institute ...</p> <p>Parfleet—Baptist Chapel ...</p> <p>Stanford—St. Margaret's Hall ...</p> <p>South Ockendon—Congregational Church Hall ...</p> <p>Tilbury—Welfare Centre, Civic Square ...</p> <p>West Thurrock—Parish Room ...</p> | <p>Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Wednesday, 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m. 3rd Friday, 2 p.m. ... Every Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Fridays, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Thursday, 2 p.m. 2nd Tuesday, 2 p.m. Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. Every Thursday, 2 p.m.</p> <p>2nd & 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Tuesday and Wednesday, 2 p.m. 1st and 3rd Mondays, 2 p.m.</p> | Dried Milk, Foods, &c., sold at all sessions. |
| Ante-Natal | <p>Grays—</p> <p>Little Thurrock—</p> <p>Stanford—</p> <p>Tilbury—</p> <p>West Thurrock—</p> <p>See Welfare Centres above.</p> | <p>Every Friday, 9 a.m. 2nd & 4th Friday, 2 p.m. 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 9 a.m. Every Thursday, 2 p.m. ... 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.</p> | |
| Women's Welfare (Birth Control) | Grays—See above ... | 1st Thursday, 6 p.m. | Patients seen only by appointment. |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Orthopædic (a) Diagnosis | Grays—Glasson House, High Street ... Tilbury—Welfare Centre, Civic Square ... Grays— <i>See above</i> ... Tilbury—, , , , , | By Appointment Every Tuesday and Friday 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m. Every Monday, 10 a.m. | Clinic held jointly by Essex County Council & Thurrock U.D.C. |
| (b) After-Care | | | |
| Tuberculosis Dispensary | Grays—59 London Road ... | Every Monday, 4 to 6 p.m. Every Thursday, 10 to 12 noon | Provided by Essex County Council. |
| School Clinics | Grays—Glasson House, High Street ... Tilbury—Welfare Centre, Civic Square ... Aveley—Council School ... Stanford—Council School ... | Minor Ailments—Daily, 9 a.m. Inspections—Every Wed., 9.30 a.m. Minor Ailments—Tues. & Fri, 9 a.m. Inspections—Friday, 9 a.m. Minor Ailments—Friday, 9 a.m. Minor Ailments—Friday, 9 a.m. Inspections—3rd Friday, 9 a.m. | Provided by Essex County Council. Closed during School holidays. |
| Eye Clinic | Grays—Glasson House, High Street ... | Tuesday, 9.15 a.m. | Provided by Essex County Council. Closed during School holidays. Refrac- tions by appointment only. |
| Dental Clinic | Grays—Welfare Centre, The Park | Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. Other sessions as required | Provided by Essex County Council. Closed during School holidays. All treat- ment by appointment only. |
| Venereal Diseases | Gravesend—22 Cobham Street ... | Men—Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. —Thursday, 4.45 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Women—Tuesday, 12.45 to 2.30 p.m. —Thursday, 3 to 4.45 p.m. | Provided by Kent County Council. Essex patients may attend free of charge. |

(c) HOSPITALS.

Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury.

The accommodation was given in my Reports for 1935, and no change has occurred. The Secretary, Seamen's Hospital Society, has kindly supplied the following figures:—

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| No. of In-patients during 1936 | .... | 1396 |
| „ „ Out-patients „ „ | .... | 4779 |
| „ „ Major operations performed .. | | 603 |
| „ „ Minor „ „ | ... | 366 |

Orsett Public Assistance Institution.

| | | |
|---------------------------|------|-----|
| General Medical Beds | .... | 186 |
| Tuberculosis | .... | 15 |
| Isolation | .... | 10 |
| Mental (Observation) Beds | ... | 7 |
| Maternity Beds | .... | 7 |

Thurrock Isolation Hospital.

Medical Officers' Report for year 1936.

The Isolation Hospital is situated in Stifford Long Lane, Little Thurrock, on a site of 10½ acres.

It consists of 6 ward blocks allocated to the nursing of infectious diseases and 1 block which has been set apart as a sanatorium. There are normally 90 beds available for infectious diseases and 18 beds for the sanatorium.

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES.

The General Nursing Council have provisionally approved the Hospital as a complete training school for Fever Nurses. A classroom has been equipped and the training of probationer nurses is now being carried out.

The following table shows the admissions and discharges during the period from 1st January to 31st March, 1936 (Orsett Joint Hospital Board).

| | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Measles. | Mixed Infection. | Erysipelas. | Total |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| In hospital, 1/1/36 | 16 | 1 | — | 2 | — | 19 |
| Admitted | 32 | 5 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 59 |
| Discharged | 35 | 5 | — | 7 | 1 | 48 |
| In hospital, 31/3/36 | 13 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 30 |

The following table shows the admissions and discharges during the period from 1st April to 31st December, 1936 (Thurrock U.D.C.)

| | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Measles | Measles and Pneumonia | Mixed Infection | Poliomyelitis | Erysipelas | Ophthalmia Neonatorum | Typhoid Fever | Whooping Cough | Encephalitis Lethargica | Pneumonia | Baby born | Total |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| In hospital, 1/4/37 | 13 | 1 | 11 | ... | 2 | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Admitted ... | 142 | 33 | 22 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 245 |
| Discharged ... | 127 | 20 | 33 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 15 | 4 | 1 | 5 | ... | ... | 1 | 228 |
| Deaths... .. | ... | 3 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 7 |
| In hospital, 31/12/36 | 28 | 11 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 40 |

MONTHLY ADMISSIONS OF SCARLET FEVER
AND DIPHTHERIA.

| Month. | | | Scarlet Fever | Diphtheria |
|-----------|------|------|------------------|------------|
| January | .... | .... | 14 | 4 |
| February | ... | ... | 12 | — |
| March | .... | ... | 6 | 1 |
| April | .... | ... | 3 | 5 |
| May | ... | ... | 6 | 1 |
| June | ... | .... | 4 | — |
| July | .... | .... | 25 | — |
| August | .... | ... | 18 | — |
| September | .... | ... | 19 | 4 |
| October | .... | .... | 20 | 4 |
| November | ... | ... | 23 | 4 |
| December | ... | ... | 24 | 15 |
| | | | 174 | 38 |

DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

| | | | | | |
|----------|---|-------|-----------|---|-------|
| January | - | 19·25 | July | - | 13·25 |
| February | - | 24·0 | August | - | 35·4 |
| March | - | 19·8 | September | - | 30·3 |
| April | - | 25·3 | October | - | 36·3 |
| May | - | 22·1 | November | - | 30·5 |
| June | - | 12·5 | December | - | 36·5 |

Average for the year - 25·5

TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENT-DAYS IN HOSPITAL.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------|
| 1st January to 31st March | - | 1,862 |
| 1st April to 31st December | - | 7,613 |
| | | Total |
| | | 9,475 |

COMPLICATIONS.

Diphtheria. Adenitis, 18 ; Rhinorrhœa, 6 ; Otorrhœa, 1 ; Laryngeal Diph., 2 ; Cardiac Failure, 2 ; Palatal patesis, 6 ; Nasal Diphtheria, 3.

Scarlet Fever. Cervical Adenitis occurred in some 20 per cent. of the cases admitted. Rhinorrhœa, 6 ; Secondary attack, 1 ; Otorrhœa, 5 ; Acute Rheumatism, 8 ; Acute Nephritis 5 ; Albuminuria, 3.

Operations. Laparotomy, 1.

Swabs. 475 swabs were taken and examined during the year at the County Council's laboratory.

During the year the Ford Ambulance, which has been in use since 1922, has been put out of service and the Ambulance work is now being done with two 20-h.p. Ambulances (one Austin, one Morris).

The following table shows the work done by each Ambulance during the year 1936.

| | AUSTIN. | | MORRIS. | |
|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| | | | | |
| 1st Jan. to 31st March | 65 journeys | 551 miles | 40 journeys | 337 miles |
| 1st April to 31st Dec. | 224 journeys | 1845 miles | 230 journeys | 1164 miles |
| Total | 289 journeys | 2396 miles | 270 journeys | 1501 miles |

Total number of Ambulance journeys, 559. Total mileage, 3897.

In November the Council decided to discontinue the practice of contracting out for the cartage of infected bedding, &c., to and from the Hospital Disinfector, and a Ford 8-h.p. Van was purchased for this purpose. The new arrangement is working quite satisfactorily.

LOCAL SANATORIUM.

The Essex County Council have approached the Thurrock Urban District Council with a view to using part of the Isolation Hospital as a Sanatorium.

An agreement is being entered into for five years, with option to determine at the end of three years, for the utilization by the County Council of 18 beds for Pulmonary Tuberculosis (male), at a weekly maintenance charge of £2 10s. 0d. per patient. That part of the Hospital to be used for the purpose will be known as the Thurrock Sanatorium, and it is hoped to find accommodation there for a large proportion of local patients.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL IN THE COUNCIL'S THREE YEAR PLAN.

The COUNCIL are giving consideration to the following proposals in their Three Year Plan:—

In the first year the building of a new Nurses' Home with separate bedrooms for nurses is proposed.

The existing Administrative Block is totally inadequate for the proposed housing of the staff at the Isolation Hospital, and it is proposed to erect a new Nurses' Home which will leave the present building available for domestic and administrative accommodation.

In the second year it is proposed to erect a 12-bedded Cubicle Ward Block to replace an old "Humphreys" building which is unsatisfactory.

In view of the fact that the Hospital is now available for all kinds of infectious disease with one or two exceptions, the extra accommodation that a Ward block of this type will afford will greatly facilitate the work of nursing the many kinds of infection which have to be treated.

It also is proposed to build a bungalow at the Isolation Hospital for the accommodation of the 2nd Porter.

The third year provides for a central heating system to be installed in a Ward-block where the present arrangement is not good. Provision is also made to lay down two hard tennis courts for the use of the staff.

RENOVATIONS, &c.

Jan.—March. Re-facing walls of bath rooms and lavatories of the Four-Ward Block, and fitting new sluices.

April—Dec. Interior painting of Four-Ward Block. Repairs to ceiling of “ Patience ” Block. Interior renovations to ceilings in Administrative Block, and Matron’s Office.

3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(i.) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Eighteen Midwives practice within the Urban District. At the time of writing this Report and with the passing of the Midwives’ Act, 1936, the Council have recently appointed nine whole-time Municipal Midwives, while a tenth appointment is to be made. In addition there are seven District Nurse-Midwives attached to the Nursing Associations. It is estimated that some 700 births will be attended annually by Municipal Midwives.

The Council reimburse a midwife to the extent of 10/- in respect of every case removed from her practice to hospital.

(ii.) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

The Council have complete services for the admission of maternity cases to hospital before, during and after confinement. The number of patients so admitted during 1936 was as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-------|
| Orsett Institution | - | - | 48 |
| Queen Mary’s Hospital, Stratford | - | - | 36 |
| Oldchurch Hospital, Romford | - | - | 49 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | | 133 |
| | | | <hr/> |

(iii.) HEALTH VISITORS.

The Council employs eight Health Visitors, sharing their services with the Essex County Council. By this arrangement each Health Visitor acts as School Nurse over a portion of the Urban District. Prior to the formation of the Thurrock Urban District, Health Visitors were shared with the Essex County Council under various arrangements and agreements.

The Health Visitors are now whole-time servants of the Thurrock Urban District Council, their services being paid for by an arranged grant from the Essex County Council.

Visits paid by Health Visitors during the year :—

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| (i.) To expectant mothers. | First visits | 225 |
| | Re-visits | 27 |
| (ii) To children under 1 year of age. | | |
| | First Visits | 1,114 |
| | Revisits | 3,300 |
| (iii.) To children aged 1-5 years. | | 6,632 |
| Total Visits | | <hr/> 11,298 <hr/> |

INFANT WELFARE-CENTRES.

| | |
|--|--------|
| (i.) No of Clinics maintained by the Council | 14 |
| (ii.) Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :— | |
| (a) By children under 1 year of age | 11,796 |
| (b) By children between ages of 1 & 5 years | 12,769 |
| (iii.) Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who at the date of their first attendance were : | |
| (a) Under 1 year of age | 717 |
| (b) Between ages of 1 and 5 years | 227 |
| (iv.) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who at the end of the year were :— | |
| (a) Under 1 year of age | 516 |
| (b) Over 1 year of age | 538 |

- (v.) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number (ii.) (a) - - 86%

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

- (i.) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council - - 5
- (ii.) Total number of attendances at all Clinics during the year :—
- | | | | |
|------------|---|---|------|
| Ante-natal | - | - | 1901 |
| Post-natal | - | - | 88 |
- (iii.) Total number of women who attended at the Clinics during the year :—
- | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Ante-natal | - | - | - | 589 |
| Post-natal | - | - | - | 58 |
- (iv.) Percentage of total notified births attending—
- | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Ante-natal | - | - | - | 52.5% |
| Post-natal | - | - | - | 5.2% |

WOMEN'S WELFARE CENTRE.

- Number of sessions held during the year - 23
- Number of new cases attended - 62
- Total attendances by old and new cases - 152

During the last few years the Maternity and Child Welfare work in the district has increased enormously as is shown in the following table.

| | 1932 | 1935 | 1936 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| No. of Infant Welfare Centres | 11 | 12 | 14 |
| Total Births | 1105 | 1069 | 1163 |
| Total attendances of children under 5 years at Welfare Centre | 17,246 | 20,445 | 24,565 |
| Total number of sessions held at infant welfare, Ante-natal and Birth Control Clinics.... | 508 | 583 | 692 |

PROVISION OF MILK.

Total quantity of milk supplied during the year to expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

| | | | |
|-------------|---|---|------------|
| Liquid Milk | - | - | 546 galls. |
| Dried Milk | - | - | 2490 lbs. |

(iv.) INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

| | | |
|--|------|----|
| No. of Foster-mothers on register | .... | 5 |
| No. of Infants registered | .... | 6 |
| Total visits to above by Infant Life Protection Visitors | .... | 40 |

Conditions in regards to these children have been satisfactory. No prosecutions have been undertaken or warnings given during the year.

I am indebted to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for the following figures :

| | | | |
|---|------|------|----|
| Total number of cases reported and allegations found to be true | | | 41 |
|---|------|------|----|

Action taken—

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------|------|----|
| Warnings | .... | .... | 38 |
| Prosecutions and convictions | .... | .... | 3 |

Classification of Cases—

| | | | |
|---------------|------|------|----|
| Neglect | .... | .... | 25 |
| Other wrongs | .... | .... | 10 |
| Advice sought | .... | .... | 1 |
| Ill-treatment | .... | .... | 5 |

Analysis of Cases reported—

| | | | |
|---|------|------|----|
| By the general public | ... | .... | 18 |
| By the Police | .... | .... | 1 |
| By the Public Health Department and other Officials | .... | .... | 19 |
| By the Inspector | .... | .... | 3 |

Number of Children affected—

| | | | |
|---------|------|------|----|
| Males | .... | .... | 72 |
| Females | .... | .... | 71 |

(v.) ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

Details of the Clinics held under this heading will be found in the table of Clinics and Treatment Centres earlier in this Report. The arrangements have been reported fully in previous Annual Reports, and no alterations have occurred during the year.

ASCERTAINMENT (SURGEONS) CLINIC.

| Date of Clinic. | | | Essex C.C. | Thurrock U.D.C. | Total. |
|-----------------|-----|-----|---------------|--------------------|--------|
| 17/1/36 | ... | ... | 23 | 12 | 35 |
| 20/3/36 | ... | ... | 39 | 19 | 58 |
| 19/6/36 | ... | ... | 53 | 21 | 74 |
| 4/9/36 | ... | ... | 45 | 15 | 60 |
| 13/11/36 | ... | ... | 34 | 15 | 49 |

AFTER-CARE CLINIC.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. on Register at 1/1/36 | ... | 286 | 105 | 391 |
| „ on Register at 31/12/36 | ... | 294 | 110 | 404 |
| „ Discharged as cured | ... | 48 | 12 | 60 |
| „ „ for other reasons | | 42 | 47 | 89 |
| New Cases seen | ... | 98 | 64 | 162 |

NATURE OF TREATMENT.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Exercises | ... | 40 | — | 40 |
| Massage, &c. | ... | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Wedges and After-care | ... | 239 | 100 | 339 |
| Breathing Exercises | ... | 10 | — | 10 |
| Supervision of Appliances | ... | 22 | 8 | 30 |

Patients requiring operative treatment are admitted to the Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, E.2., Brookfields Hospital, Walthamstow, and to the Cheyne Hospital, Chelsea, S.W.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Facilities are available for all forms of dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers. The Council assesses patients to repay the whole or portion of the cost, according to their financial circumstances. Necessitous cases are treated free of charge.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i.) WATER.

The principal water supply of the district comes from the South Essex Waterworks Company, the majority of the district being served thereby. Since the formation of the Urban District the water undertakings of the late Orsett Rural District have been transferred to Billericay Urban District Council, the only area now remaining and supplied by the Council being the roads known as Old Hill Avenue, Church Road, and Old Hill, in Bulphan. The water supply in these roads is purchased by the Council from Billericay U.D.C. Bacteriological analyses has shown the supply to be of satisfactory quality, and the supply is adequate.

(ii.) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No important extensions have taken place during the year, but minor extensions amounting to 1,300 yards have been carried out by the Council on their housing estates.

2. (i.) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The principal river in the area is the Mardyke, which rises above Bulphan and Orsett Fens and discharges into the Thames at West Thurrock. There are various small tidal streams near the Thames.

3. (i.) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There remain in the district 274 cesspools and 638 pail closets and privies, and these are being converted as the opportunity arises.

(ii.) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Owing to the formation of the Thurrock Urban District so recently as the 1st April, 1936, the Council have not yet completed their arrangements for the re-organisation of the public cleansing of the area. This is now under consideration. In Grays and Tilbury public cleansing was carried out by direct labour, and this has been continued. In the districts of Orsett and

Purfleet public cleansing was carried out by contract, and this also is being continued. The following vehicles are owned and maintained by the Council:—

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 S.D. Freighters. | 1 Low-loading horse van. |
| 1 Horse-van. | 2 Horse-drawn dustcarts. |

The Council also own several horse-drawn cesspool vans but these, together with some of the horse-drawn dust vehicles, are obsolete and their use cannot be continued for long.

(iii.) SANITARY INSPECTOR OF THE AREA.

The following report has been furnished to me by the Chief Sanitary Inspector under Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Dwelling houses | .... | .... | 3837 |
| Houses recorded under Housing Consoli- | | | |
| dation Regulations, 1925 | .... | .... | 1231 |
| Housing Act, 1935 | .... | .... | 848 |
| Infectious Disease | ... | .... | 266 |
| Caravans | .... | .... | 423 |
| Factories | .... | .... | 123 |
| Workshops | .... | .... | 151 |
| Bakehouses | .... | ... | 67 |
| Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops |  | .... | 295 |
| Fried Fish Shops | .... | .... | 149 |
| Butchers' Shops | .... | .... | 456 |
| Food preparation premises | .... | .... | 156 |
| Common Lodging Houses | .... | .... | 14 |
| Smoke observations | .... | .... | 32 |
| Refuse tips | ... | .... | 52 |
| Slaughter houses | .... | .... | 1709 |
| Ice cream premises | .... | .... | 92 |
| Stables, Pig Styes and accumulations | .... | .... | 31 |
| Shops Acts | .... | .... | 241 |
| Outworkers | .... | .... | 4 |
| Special Visits | .... | .... | 517 |
| Rat suppression | .... | .... | 85 |
| Miscellaneous | .... | .... | 482 |

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year 17 smoke observations were taken, all of which were in respect of emissions of black smoke. Informal action was taken and the nuisances abated. Many complaints have been made again of the precipitation of cement dust over a large part of the western end of the district. The installation of an electro precipitation plant, however, has much diminished this precipitation. Further, it is intended to extend the operation of the new precipitation plant, and to instal other precipitators. There is good reason to hope that there will be much less ground for complaint in the future.

MILK PRODUCTION.

There are within the Thurrock Urban District 49 milk producing farms all of which have been subjected to periodic inspections. Generally, the standard of cowsheds is good, but the following instances occur where exceptions have been taken with a view to improvements being effected :

Improvements to existing cowsheds.

| | | |
|--|------|---|
| Installation of additional lighting | .... | 2 |
| Reconstructions of cowsheds | .... | 6 |
| New dairy, washing & sterilising room provided | | 4 |
| Sterilising plants installed | .... | 6 |

Dairies and Milkshops.

There are approximately 90 dairies and milkshops within the district, all of which are subjected to routine inspection. Various improvements have been effected at different times involving the provision of sterilising outfits, renewals of yard paving, limewashing, renewal of washing brushes and the like.

Miscellaneous.

Thirteen notifications of Mastitis were received from the Essex County Council and in each case the affected animal was segregated. Appropriate visits of inspection were made, with a view to ensuring the carrying out of the exclusion orders.

Number of retailers licensed to sell :

| | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|
| (a) | Accredited milk | 6 |
| (b) | Tuberculin tested milk | 3 |
| (c) | Certified pasteurised | Nil |
| (d) | Pasteurised | 4 |

Milk Samples—Ungraded Milks.

Samples were taken during the year and the following table sets forth the result of the analyses :

| Date. | Bacteria per c.c. | B. Coli present. |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| 17/2/36 | 2,800 | Absent in 1 c.c. |
| 17/2/36 | 30,000 | Absent in 1 c.c. |

MEAT INSPECTION.

Number of Animals Inspected.

| | | |
|--------|------|------|
| Cattle | .... | 1994 |
| Calves | .... | 181 |
| Sheep | .... | 4303 |
| Swine | .... | 4975 |
| Goats | .... | 3 |

Unsound Meat Surrendered.

Approximately 17,280 lbs. of meat was confiscated comprising 4 entire beasts' carcasses and sundry other parts, viscera, etc.

Other Foods Surrendered.

FISH.

| | | |
|----------|------|---------|
| Cod | .... | 76 lbs. |
| Skate | .... | 56 lbs. |
| Mackerel | .... | 8 lbs. |
| Kippers | .... | 20 lbs. |
| Haddock | .... | 24 lbs. |

FRUIT.

| | | |
|--------------|------|---------|
| Apples | .... | 40 lbs. |
| Strawberries | | 36 lbs. |

MISCELLANEOUS.

| | | |
|----------------|------|---------|
| Ham | .... | 17 lbs. |
| Treacle (tins) | | 11 lbs. |

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Number of registered Slaughterhouses | 3 |
| Number of licensed Slaughterhouses | 21 |

These premises are subjected to supervision from the point of view of cleanliness, linewashing, &c., and several instances of the necessity for improved lighting

facilities have been given attention. There is one licensed Knackers Yard within the district.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

A register of all licensed slaughtermen pursuant to Section 3 (1) of the above-mentioned Act is kept and the number so licensed is 39. Three instances of slaughtermen failing to comply with the provisions of this Act relating to humane slaughtering were noted and informal action was resorted to.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of cesspools now existing in the | |
| District | 274 |
| Number of pail closets and privies | 638 |

ICE CREAM.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Number of premises on register | 58 |
| Number of persons on register | 59 |

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Eighteen dwelling-houses were disinfected during the year. The method of disinfestation in each case being, the taking down of all detachable woodwork, firing with a blow lamp and subsequent spraying with a proprietary insecticide.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 1494
- (b) Number of inspections made for that purpose 3837
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 335
- (b) Number of inspections made for that purpose 1282
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation 1221

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 834

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) *Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of Housing Act, 1930.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 119

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners 82

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 1

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 73

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners ... 57

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(C) *Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were served ... 20

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 9

(3) Number of undertakings not to re-let accepted 11

(4) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings to render fit were accepted 10

(D) *Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(1) INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

| Premises. | In- spections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prose- cuted |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Factories | 250 | 8 | Nil |
| (Including Factory Laundries) | | | |
| Workshops | 138 | 9 | Nil |
| (Including Workshop Laundries) | | | |
| Workplaces | 13 | Nil | Nil |
| (Other than Outworkers premises) | | | |
| Total | 401 | 17 | Nil |

(2) DEFECTS FOUND

in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

| Particulars. | Number of Defects. | | | Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were Instituted. |
|--|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | Found. | Rem- edied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts —</i> | | | | |
| Want of cleanliness | 6 | 6 | — | — |
| Want of ventilation | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding | — | — | — | — |
| Want of drainage of floors | — | — | — | — |
| Other nuisances | 9 | 9 | — | — |
| Sanitary accommodation— | | | | |
| Insufficient | 2 | 2 | — | — |
| Unsuitable or Defective | 6 | 6 | — | — |
| Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — |
| <i>Offences under Factory & Workshops Acts —</i> | | | | |
| Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses | — | — | — | — |
| Other Offences | 8 | 8 | 2 | — |
| [Excluding offences relating to outwork, and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921] | | | | |
| Total | 31 | 31 | 2 | — |

LIST OF WORKS EXECUTED.

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Drains repaired | .... | .... | .... | 75 |
| Damp courses provided.... | .... | .... | .... | 26 |
| Sashcords and window frames repaired | .... | .... | .... | 564 |
| Gutters and spouting repaired | .... | .... | .... | 209 |
| W.C. Drains repaired or renewed | .... | .... | .... | 109 |
| W.C. structures repaired | .... | .... | .... | 96 |
| Roofs repaired | .... | .... | .... | 251 |
| Refuse removed | .... | .... | .... | 13 |
| Verminous premises cleaned | .... | .... | .... | 18 |
| Paving repaired | ... | .... | .... | 105 |
| Walls and ceilings cleansed or repaired | .... | .... | .... | 1343 |
| Sinks and wastepipes repaired or renewed | .... | .... | .... | 139 |
| Floors and stairs repaired | .... | .... | .... | 286 |
| Water supplies provided | ... | .... | .... | 90 |
| Dustbins provided | .... | .... | .... | 279 |
| External brickwork repaired | .... | .... | .... | 128 |
| Foodstores provided | .... | .... | .... | 16 |
| Fireplaces/coppers repaired or renewed | .... | .... | .... | 730 |
| Disinfections | ... | .. | .... | 206 |
| Miscellaneous minor defects | .... | .... | .... | 551 |

MILK IN SCHOOLS.

Arising out of a number of adverse reports from the Essex County Council in respect of samples of pasteurised milk taken from schools, considerable effort was made with a view to discovering the source of the trouble. No outstanding omission was traced, but it was felt that as this milk was sometimes subjected to secondary heating at the schools, this might be a possible solution; although in contradiction of this theory, I was unable to obtain any of these undesirable results when taking following up samples.

SAMPLES.

| Taken by | Date | No. of Bac. per Millilitre | Bac. Coli. |
|-----------|----------|-------------------------------|---|
| E.C.C. | 24/9/36 | 1,384,000 | Present in 1/100 <small>Milli-litre</small> |
| T.U.D.C.* | 10/10/36 | 280,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 20/10/36 | 8,300 | Absent |
| E.C.C. | 24/9/36 | 736,000 | Present in 1/100 „ |
| T.U.D.C. | 10/10/36 | 15,000 | Absent |
| E.C.C. | 24/9/36 | 195,000 | Present in 1/100 „ |
| E.C.C. | 24/9/36 | 150,000 | do. |
| E.C.C. | 30/9/36 | 848,000 | do. |
| T.U.D.C. | 12/10/36 | 5,200 | Absent in 1/100 „ |
| T.U.D.C. | 12/10/36 | 12,000 | do. |
| E.C.C. | 8/10/36 | 523,000 | Present in 1/100 „ |
| T.U.D.C. | 13/10/36 | 980 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 13/10/36 | 780 | Absent |
| E.C.C. | 15/10/36 | 960,000 | Present in 1/100 „ |
| E.C.C. | 15/10/36 | 244,000 | do. |
| E.C.C. | 15/10/36 | 327,000 | do. |
| E.C.C. | 15/10/36 | 1,720,000 | do. |
| T.U.D.C. | 20/10/36 | 8,300 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 20/10/36 | 7,200 | Absent |
| E.C.C. | 21/10/36 | 1,352,000 | Present in 1/100 „ |
| T.U.D.C. | 28/10/36 | 62,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 28/10/36 | 4,700 | Absent |
| E.C.C. | 28/10/36 | 4,800 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 28/10/36 | 67,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 28/10/36 | 6,400 | Absent |
| E.C.C. | 28/10/36 | 267,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 11/11/36 | 1,200 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 11/11/36 | 2,200 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 11/11/36 | 16,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 11/11/36 | 12,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 23/11/36 | 3,600 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 23/11/36 | 3,000 | Absent |
| T.U.D.C. | 23/11/36 | 4,200 | Absent |

* Investigations revealed that a breakdown of the sterilising plant took place on the day of sampling.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are ground in various parts of the Urban District some fifty-five occupants of this type of dwelling, whose habits and mode of living in many instances are such as to provoke complaints from adjoining property owners and residents. Upon receipt of these complaints the Council deliberated upon the feasibility of the application of the statutes controlling this class of dweller. The facilities offered by Section 80 (2) of the Housing Act, 1935, and Section 43 of the Public Health Act, 1925, were considered and contrasted with the provisions of Section 109 of the Essex County Council Act, 1933. This last mentioned Act is enforceable only in those Urban Districts the population of which equals or exceeds 20,000 according to the last published census of the Registrar General and is subject to certain reasonable reservations. As an outcome of the Council's deliberations, I was instructed during the latter part of the year to take legal proceedings under Section 109 of the Essex County Council Act in respect of two caravan dwellers, one from Mill Lane, Fobbing, in the more rural parts of the area, and one from Elm Road, in the urban area of Grays. The cases were presented and adjourned to allow time for the defendants to make application to the Council for their consent. This was refused and the cases re-presented and a further adjournment of 21 days allowed in order that opportunities might be given for appeal against the decision of the Council to withhold their consent. At this stage of the proceedings the three van dwellers occupying the Elm Road site elected to move, taking up tenancies of void houses.

In the final representation of the cases, the Court held that in the Elm Road instance an offence had been committed, but in view of the fact that the defendant had finally complied with the law, the case would be dismissed without costs under the Probation of Offenders' Act. In the case of the Fobbing site the defendant was subjected to a daily penalty.

HOUSING ACT, 1935—OVERCROWDING SURVEY.

This Act came into force on the 2nd August, 1936, and arising out of the provisions of Section 1, the several Councils resolved that the existing Public Health staffs be temporarily augmented by the provision of 13 enumerators and 8 clerks. A systematic inspection of the working class houses in each district was undertaken and separate cards embodying the information set out in Form B of the Ministry of Health's Memorandum B were completed in respect of each family.

With little variation the several Councils completed this part of the survey by the end of January. Thereafter some considerable time was given to the correlation of the information obtained and the ultimate building up of Form C, which was submitted to the Minister prior to the time fixed as indicated by Circular 1507, i.e., 1st June, 1936.

Form C shewed that 331 cases of overcrowding existed within the combined sanitary districts.

A comprehensive and tabulated report was presented to the newly constituted Thurrock Urban District Council in June, 1936, who deliberated upon measures to be adopted for the abatement of overcrowding with a view to submitting their proposals to the Minister of Health by 1st August, 1936.

The Council carefully considered the necessity for erecting new houses as opposed to the facilities offered by their existing estates. Ultimately it was resolved that the whole of the Council's Estates, consisting of 4,502 houses, should be utilised for the purpose of abating the known overcrowding cases in the district. Policies of house to house exchange were instituted, and separate alternative accommodation provided; in those instances where lodgers could be reasonably dispensed with without undue hardship informal action was taken. In a number of cases overcrowding was abated merely by the rearrangement of sleeping accommodation.

The Council, in their re-housing and exchange policies, whilst not adopting the actual standard laid down by Section 37 of the Housing Act, 1930, allowed

a reasonable margin between the number of incoming units and the permitted number for the house.

Of the 331 cases of overcrowding 220 were abated by the foregoing policies, leaving 111 cases to be dealt with at the end of 1936.

No instance was noted of any premises having again become overcrowded.

| | |
|---|------|
| No. of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year | 111 |
| No. of families dwelling therein | 120 |
| No. of persons dwelling therein | 970 |
| No. of new cases reported during the year | 1 |
| No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during year | 220 |
| No. of persons concerned in such cases | 1574 |

REPORT OF THE SHOPS' INSPECTOR.

The Council appointed me Shops' Inspector on the 6th October, 1936.

The following Orders, under the Seal of the County Council, were operated in the district:—

1. The Grays Thurrock Closing Order, 1922.

This Order, subject to certain statutory reservations, provides for evening closing within the late Urban District of Grays Thurrock as follows:—

The Retail Trades and businesses of Art Needlework Dealers, Bakers, Boot and Shoe Merchants, Butchers, Chemists, China and Glass Merchants, Corn Merchants, Dairymen, Drapers, Furnishers, Gents' Outfitters, Ironmongers and Hardware Merchants, Jewellers, Oil and Colour Merchants, Photographers, Sewing Machine Agents and Stationers.

| | | | |
|-----------|---|------|--------|
| Monday | .... | .... | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday | .... | .... | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday | (all shops to which a weekly half-holiday Order fixing Wednesday as the day of the weekly half-holiday applies) | | 1 p.m. |
| ,, | other.... | .... | 8 p.m. |
| Thursday | .... | .... | 7 p.m. |
| Friday | .... | .... | 8 p.m. |
| Saturday | .... | .... | 9 p.m. |

2. The West Thurrock Tobacconists' (Hours of Closing) Order, 1929.

This Order provides for evening closing within the West Thurrock Ward as follows:—

| | | | | |
|------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Saturdays | .... | .... | .... | 10 p.m. |
| Other Days | .... | .... | .... | 9.30 p.m. |

3. The Grays Thurrock Weekly Half-holiday (No. 1) Order, 1913.

This Order provides for a weekly half-holiday within the area of the late Urban District of Grays Thurrock on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year in respect of the following retail trades:—

Art Needlework Dealers, Boot Dealers, Corn Merchants, Drapers, Dealers in Fancy Goods, Furnishers, Outfitters, Grocers, Ironmongers, Sewing Machine Dealers, Stationers and Wardrobe Dealers, the statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday being made.

4. The Grays Thurrock Weekly Half-holiday (No. 2) Order, 1913.

This Order provides for the weekly half-holiday within the area of the late Urban District of Grays Thurrock on Saturday at 1 p.m. throughout the year for the retail trade or businesses of Harness Makers. The statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday being made.

5. The Grays Thurrock Weekly Half-holiday (No. 1) Order, 1915.

This Order provides for the weekly half-holiday within the area of the late Urban District of Grays Thurrock on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year for the retail trade or businesses of Hairdressers, statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday being made.

6. The Tilbury Weekly Half-holiday (No. 1) Order, 1917.

This Order provides for the weekly half-holiday within the area of the late Urban District of Tilbury on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year for the retail trades and businesses of Barber and Hairdresser. Statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday is made.

7. The Stanford-le-Hope Weekly Half-holiday Order, 1913.

This Order applies to all shops in the parish of Stanford-le-Hope in the County of Essex, except shops

which are exempted by the Act, or by any Order made in pursuance of the Act from the obligation to close for the weekly half-holiday, except shops in which the retail trades or businesses of Furniture Dealers, Hairdressers, Outfitters and Watchmakers are carried on.

All shops to which this Order applies shall be closed for the weekly half-holiday on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year. Statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday is made.

8. The Lambourne and Stifford Tobacconists' (Hours of Closing) Order, 1929.

This Order provides for evening closing within the Lambourne and Stifford areas as follows:—

| | | | | |
|------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Saturdays | .... | .... | .... | 10 p.m. |
| Other Days | .... | .... | .... | 9.30 p.m. |

9. The Grays Thurrock Extension of Weekly Half-holiday (No. 1) Order, 1913.

This Order provides for a weekly half-holiday within the area of the late Urban District of Grays Thurrock on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year in respect of such Butchers and Chemists as are exempted by Section (46) and the second Schedule to the Act.

10. The Little Thurrock Tobacconists' (Hours of Closing) Order, 1930.

This Order provides for evening closing within the Little Thurrock Ward as follows:—

| | | | | |
|------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Saturdays | .... | .... | .... | 10 p.m. |
| Other Days | .... | .... | .... | 9.30 p.m. |

11. The South Ockendon Weekly Half-holiday (No. 2) Order, 1914.

This Order provides for a weekly half-holiday within the area of South Ockendon on Thursday at 1 p.m. throughout the year in respect of the retail trade or business of Stationers. The statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Thursday being made.

12. The Stanford-le-Hope Extension of Weekly Half-holiday (No. 1) Order, 1913.

This Order provides for a weekly half-holiday within the Stanford-le-Hope Ward on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year in respect of the retail trade or business of Dairymen, the statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday being made.

13. The County of Essex (Shops Exemption) (No. 5) Order, 1913.

This Order applies to all shops within the Parish of Fobbing in which the retail trades or businesses of Coal and Coke Merchants are carried on.

All shops to which this Order applies are exempted from the provisions of Section 4 of the Act in regard to closing for the weekly half-holiday.

14. The Grays Thurrock Closing Order, 1917.

This Order, subject to certain statutory reservations, provides for evening closing within the late Urban District of Grays Thurrock in respect of the trade or business of Barbers or Hairdressers as follows:—

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|------|------|-----------|
| Monday | .... | .... | .... | 8 p.m. |
| Tuesday | .... | .... | .... | 8 p.m. |
| Wednesday | (all shops to which a weekly half-holiday Order fixing Wednesday as the day of the weekly half-holiday applies) | | | 1 p.m. |
| „ | other | .... | .... | 8 p.m. |
| Thursday | .... | .... | .... | 8 p.m. |
| Friday | .... | .... | .... | 8.30 p.m. |
| Saturday | .... | .... | .... | 9.30 p.m. |

15. The County of Essex (Shops Exemption) (No. 8) Order, 1914.

This Order applies to all shops:—

- (a) In the Urban District of Grays Thurrock, in which the retail trade or business of Photographers and Dealers in Photographic Goods is carried on.
- (b) In the Parish of South Ockendon, in which the retail trades or businesses of Coal and Coke Merchants are carried on.

All shops to which this Order applies are exempted from the provisions of Section 4 of the Act in regard to closing for the weekly half-holiday.

16. The South Ockendon Weekly Half-holiday Order, 1914.

This Order provides for a weekly half-holiday within the area of South Ockendon on Wednesday at 1 p.m. throughout the year in respect of all shops, except those which are exempted by the Act, or by any Order made in pursuance of the Act, from the obligation to close for the weekly half-holiday, the statutory provision for the substitution of Saturday for Wednesday being made.

17. The Tilbury Hairdressers' Closing Order, 1917.

This Order, subject to certain statutory reservations, provides for evening closing within the late Urban District of Tilbury in respect of the trade or business of Barbers or Hairdressers as follows:—

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|------|------|-----------|
| Monday | ... | .... | .... | 8.30 p.m. |
| Tuesday | .... | .... | .... | 8.30 p.m. |
| Wednesday | (all shops to which a weekly half-holiday Order fixing Wednesday as the day of the weekly half-holiday applies).... | | | 1 p.m. |
| „ other | .... | .... | .... | 8.30 p.m. |
| Thursday | .... | .... | .... | 8.30 p.m. |
| Friday | .... | .... | .... | 8.30 p.m. |
| Saturday | .... | .... | .... | 10.0 p.m. |

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following Acts have to be administered by the Thurrock Urban District Council:—

Shops Act, 1912.

Shops Act, 1913.

Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928.

Shops Act, 1914.

Shops Act, 1936 (Libraries).

The Barbers' and Hairdressers' Sunday Closing Act, 1930, was repealed by the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

From the 7th October, the date upon which my appointment became operative, 205 inspections were made in connection with the requirements of the above-mentioned Act. Arising out of these inspections the following provisions were enforced:—

| | |
|--|----|
| Premises at which heating facilities were installed | 3 |
| Premises at which facilities for the taking of meals for employees were provided | 3 |
| Premises at which the exhibition of notices was required | 37 |

SHOPS ACT, 1928.

Thirteen specific observations were taken with regard to infringements of the hours of closing, and

in each case a contravention was established. The cases were subsequently submitted to the Council for consideration and it was resolved that a letter of warning be sent to each of the several offenders.

WORKING EXCESSIVE HOURS.

Two cases of young persons being worked in excess of the prescribed hours at a works canteen were reported and legal proceedings instituted. The court held that a works canteen was not a shop. A letter was received from the firm in question agreeing that the provisions of the Shops Acts, 1912 to 1934, should apply to their canteen.

(iv.) & (v.) SHOPS AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

See the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(vi.) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The Council own one public swimming bath. At the end of the year there were no privately owned swimming baths in the area, though one has since been opened. There is one swimming pool attached to a secondary school.

In the early summer of 1936 samples were taken of the water in the Council's swimming bath, which was drawn direct from the River Thames. The water was found to be unfit for bath purposes. On my report the Council closed the swimming bath pending the receipt of further samples. Several samples were taken all of which were found to be unsatisfactory and the bath remained closed for the remainder of the year.

The Council have under consideration at the present time the erection of a modern swimming pool to replace the one mentioned above. It is hoped that this will be in use during the summer of 1938.

(vii.) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

See the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

4. SCHOOLS.

Owing to the fact that the Medical Officer of Health acts as Assistant County Medical Officer, supervision over public elementary schools is much simplified. During the year all schools were visited by the Deputy or Assistant Medical Officer acting as Assistant County Medical Officers.

All cases of Infectious Disease occurring in the schools are notified to the Medical Officer of Health by the Head Teacher and visits are paid either by one of the Medical Officers or by one of the Council's Health Visitors acting as School Nurse.

Section D. HOUSING.

See the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Section E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

(a) *Milk Supply.*

(b) *Meat and Other Foods.*

See the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(c) *Adulteration.*

Essex County Council is the Authority under this heading.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*

Essex County Council carries out all duties under this heading.

(e) *Nutrition.*

Propaganda work is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre and 500 copies per month of "Better Health" are distributed to school libraries and various establishments in the Urban District.

(f) *Shellfish.*

No action was taken under this heading during the year.

Section F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

General.

(a) DIPHTHERIA. The number of cases notified were not unduly large. Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available at the Public Health Department, Grays Police Station and the Isolation Hospital.

(b) SCARLET FEVER. The number of cases notified continued high during the year and it is my impression that many cases of streptococcal infection, especially of sore throats, occurring without a rash, escaped notification. As will be seen from the table below, the majority of the patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. During the year the Council decided to admit all types of infectious diseases except Chicken-pox to the Hospital.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)
during 1936.

| DISEASE. | Total Cases Notified. | Admitted to Hospital. | Deaths. |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Smallpox | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 212 (1) | 184 (1) | 2 |
| Diphtheria | 58 (15) | 56 (11) | 3 |
| Typhoid Fever including Paratyphoid | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Puerperal Fever | 7 | 6 | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 10 | 7 | — |
| Pneumonia | 41 | 4 | 45 |
| Erysipelas | 27 | 16 | — |
| Pemphigus Neonatorum | 3 | 1 | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 3 | 3 | — |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | 3 | 1 | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | — |
| Poliomyelitis | 4 | 2 | — |
| | 372 | 284 | |

The figures in parentheses indicate the number of cases in which diagnosis was not confirmed.

The figures in the admissions column do not necessarily agree with the details in the Isolation Hospital report as some of the patients notified resided in establishments such as South Ockendon Mental Colony, the training ships "Warspite" and "Exmouth," &c., and were removed to Isolation Hospitals provided by London County Council and other authorities.

The apparent discrepancy between the number of notifications and deaths from Pneumonia is explained by the fact that many cases remain unnotified. The efficiency of notification of this disease has improved slightly during the year, but it still leaves much to be desired.

One case of Typhoid Fever was contracted abroad, the patient being a ship's officer from a vessel returning from Asia.

ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| DISEASES | Under 1 | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 15-25 | 25-35 | 35-45 | 45-55 | 55-65 | 65 yrs. Up. | Total |
|----------------------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever .. | .. | 3 | 9 | 11 | 16 | 111 | 17 | 28 | 10 | 6 | 1 | .. | .. | 212 |
| Diphtheria .. | .. | .. | 3 | 1 | 3 | 24 | 12 | 11 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 58 |
| Typhoid .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | 3 |
| Puerperal Fever .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 3 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Pneumonia .. | 2 | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 41 |
| Erysipelas .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 27 |
| Pemphigus Neonatorum .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Encephalitis Lethargica .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 3 |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Poliomyelitis .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Sessions held | .... | .... | .... | 24 |
| Total attendances | .... | .... | .... | 1096 |
| New cases seen | .... | .... | .... | 250 |
| No. receiving primary Schick Test | | | | |
| (<i>a</i>) positive | .... | .... | .... | 53 |
| (<i>b</i>) negative | .... | .... | .... | 35 |
| *No. receiving Immunisation treatment |  |  | .... | 296 |
| ,, ,, second Schick test | | | | |
| (<i>a</i>) positive | .... | .... | .... | 14 |
| (<i>b</i>) negative | .... | .... | .... | 243 |
| No. of Immunity Certificates issued |  |  | .... | 243 |

*The figure given here includes 46 children whose treatment was incomplete at the end of 1935.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

SEC. 66 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

No action was taken under this heading.

TUBERCULOSIS.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, SEC. 62, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

No action was taken under the above.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1936.

| Age Groups. | New Cases. | | | Deaths. | | |
|------------------|------------|-----|---------------|-----------|-----|---------------|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | *1 |
| 1—5 years | ... | ... | 3 | 1 | *1 | ... |
| 5—15 " | 2 | ... | 7 | 1 | 1 | ... |
| 15—25 " | 4 | 12 | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 25—35 " | 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | ... | ... |
| 35—45 " | *11 | 6 | 1 | 4 | ... | ... |
| 45—55 " | 3 | 1 | ... | 3 | ... | ... |
| 55—65 " | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| 65 years upwards | 1 | ... | 1 | *1 | ... | ... |
| | 30 | 27 | 13 | 15 | 3 | 2 |

* indicates an unnotified case.

The efficiency of notification in the Urban District is satisfactory. No evidence is available that any particular occupation in the area is responsible for excessive incidence of Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Details of the facilities available for residents in the Urban District have been given in previous Reports. I am indebted to H. Nicol, Esq., F.R.C.S., Surgeon-in-Charge of the Gravesend Clinic, for the following figures:—

New Patients, Essex Area. Male 64. Female 15.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Attendances by Essex Patients | .... | .... | 1637 |
| „ from all areas served | .... | .... | 6184 |

| | | | Male | Female |
|--|------|------|------|--------|
| Patients under treatment at 1st Jan., 1936 | | | 177 | 66 |
| „ at 31st December, 1936 | .... |  | 273 | 62 |
| Total patients receiving treatment during | | | | |
| year | .... | .... | 433 | 137 |
| New patients | .... | .... | 224 | 66 |
| Discharged or transferred | .... | .... | 160 | 75 |

